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Written Correspondence Procedure – inputs from Members – Original language compiled

ERC/20/INF/14 – Food Loss and Waste Measurement linked to the Food Loss Analysis Methodology

Country	ERC Document reference	Statement
Norway (23 Oct 2020, 14:48)	ERC/INF/20/14	<p>We commend FAO for their comprehensive work on the subject of food loss and food waste over many years. One of the main objectives has been to quantify the size of food loss and waste worldwide. However, the problem here has been to find one common definition of food loss and food waste. FAO has defined food loss and waste on their webpage, http://www.fao.org/platform-food-loss-waste/food-loss/introduction/en/. A methodology for use in the Food Loss Index has been published, SDG 12.3.1: Global Loss Index.</p> <p>METHODOLOGY FOR MONITORING SDG TARGET 12.3. AS APPROVED BY THE INTERAGENCY AND EXPERT GROUP ON SGD INDICATORS, 6 NOVEMBER 2018 THE GLOBAL FOOD LOSS INDEX DESIGN, DATA COLLECTION METHODS AND CHALLENGES.</p> <p>http://www.fao.org/3/CA2640EN/ca2640en.pdf, on the webpage http://www.fao.org/sustainable-development-goals/indicators/1231/en/. In page 12 in the methodology for monitoring SDG target 12.3, it is defined what food loss and food waste are specifically for quantification purposes in the Food Loss Index. We find that document ERC/I20/INF/14 and its definition in Box 1 is not in compliance with this methodology.</p> <p>The document also suggests using a method of case studies to find critical loss points. This is useful knowledge in the beginning, when exploring a new field, and to get more knowledge about where to collect data. The objective is to make national statistics for all food lost and wasted. For statistical purposes, case studies may be a good option if it is difficult to collect national data, or if it is deemed sufficient to get an indication of the situation. To this end, the cases chosen must be representative. When aggregating from separate cases, however, to national statistics, there will be many uncertainties in the assumptions underlying the statistics. We think that this is not necessarily the best way forward for making reliable statistics for European countries in this field.</p>
The UK (25 Oct 2020, 12:02)	ERC/20/INF/14	<p>In the UK, we focus on ‘food waste’ to describe waste from farm to fork rather than ‘food loss’ in pre-retail supply chain and ‘food waste’ for retail and consumers.</p>

		<p>UK views on issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The UK supports data collection for monitoring progress toward achieving Sustainable Development Goal 12.3 and use in policy development • Support encouraging countries to set targets on food waste reduction • The UK measures food waste in line with the UN International Food Waste Accounting and Reporting Standard • Measurement of food waste across the supply chain and in households informs UK policy action on food waste prevention. E.g. Data shows that 70% of UK food waste occurs in households which has informed policy on tackling consumer food waste • Support for public policies including engaging businesses through public/private partnerships to set a target in line with SDG 12.3, measure their food waste and take action to reduce their food waste. The UK has also had success through supporting redistribution of surplus food to those in need with grants in place to support redistribution. <p>Preferred outcome</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support FAO work in engaging countries to collect data and monitor progress towards meeting SDG 12.3 • Countries to set targets on FLW reductions in line with SDG 12.3
<p>Switzerland (received 25 Oct 19:55)</p>	<p>ERC/20/INF/14</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Avoiding food loss and waste plays a major role in the transformation towards sustainable food systems and in achieving the SDGs, in particular SDG target 12.3. • Therefore, Switzerland welcomes FAO's work on Food Loss and Waste (FLW) Measurement and a Food Loss Analysis Methodology. • FAO has a key role to play in the measurement of food loss and waste, through the building of networks, strengthening its science and evidence-based work and the development of metrics. FAO's normative, science-based and evidence-based competence should be maintained and further strengthened. • Switzerland fully agrees with the emphasis being put on measuring and reporting levels of FLW. However, experiences from our region show that this is a very challenging part of a successful FLW-strategy, needing a lot of knowhow, time and other resources. Are there plans to elaborate more guidance, including technical guidance on how to proceed on that?

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• In addition, Switzerland suggests to include a reference to the Voluntary Code of Conduct for Food Loss and Waste Reduction, currently under review by FAO and to be submitted to the FAO Council in December 2020 for its adoption.• Thank you, Chair. |
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